



Department of Environmental Quality

Executive Director: Rick Sprott

Divisions/Programs: Air Quality
Drinking Water
Environmental Response and Remediation
Radiation Control
Solid and Hazardous Waste
Water Quality

Full Time Employees: 403

Contact Information: <http://www.deq.utah.gov/>
(801) 536-4402

Mission Statement: The mission of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is to safeguard human health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment.

Emerging Issues and Strategic Focus:

Implementation of State and Federal environmental laws to protect the quality of Utah's air, land, and water resources and ensure a healthy environment for all Utahns is the Department of Environmental Quality's primary strategic focus. The Department of Environmental Quality's secondary focus is to pursue Utah-specific approaches to augment regulatory programs, as needed, to address increasing impacts associated with growth.





Economic Development:

- Clean air, water, and land are valuable resources to Utah's expanding economy. DEQ promotes a balanced, sustainable relationship between economic development and environmental quality by streamlining permitting processes, making timely decisions, providing technical assistance to businesses and working in partnership to develop rules and regulations that meet Utah's unique conditions



Quality of Life:

- Implement more stringent federal air quality requirements for ozone and PM 2.5 and new federal rules for underground storage tanks and safe drinking water standards
- Work to help shape state and national policy regarding climate change, toxic air pollutants, above ground storage tanks, and water quality standards
- Ensure continued proper management and disposal of solid, radioactive, and hazardous waste streams currently regulated
- Address the needs for proper management and disposal of additional wastes such as electronics, products containing mercury, and pharmaceuticals
- Regulate the expanding uranium mining and processing industry
- Oversee the voluntary clean up of contaminated properties



Governance:

- Maintain primacy of environmental programs eligible to be delegated to the state is essential to Utah's environment and economy. DEQ will retain primacy by maintaining technical expertise, retaining staff, and securing resources to ensure capacity for delegation